

American Business Development Center in celebration of the Lunar New Year, the largest and most festive of all celebrations in most of Asia. The Lunar New Year is a time when families and friends congregate, when social bonds are strengthened, and life celebrated.

The celebration of the Lunar New Year, Mr. Speaker, underscores many commonalities throughout our diverse cultures, like an appreciation for the cyclical nature of life and the need for reunion and renewal. I wish everyone in America and throughout Asia who celebrates this occasion a very happy New Year full of good fortune and good health.

This Lunar New Year 4698, which falls on February 5, is a special one marking the Year of the Dragon. In Chinese mythology, the Dragon is a symbol of supreme power, controlling the wind and rain to benefit the earth or, sometimes, unleashing a destructive typhoon.

Dragons, as we know, are found in Western mythology as well, carved on the helm of Viking ships and woven into children's stories about European Princesses and gallant knights. The Dragon, then, is very much a part of our world culture as is the celebration of the annual renewal of life.

Mr. Speaker, today in New York City, I joined the Asian American Business Development Center in celebrating the Lunar New Year. The Lunar New Year is a triumphant occasion for millions of people throughout the world. Mr. Speaker, I ask my fellow Members of Congress to join me and the Asian American Business Development Center in celebration of this special holiday.

THE FOUR YEAR ANNIVERSARY OF THE TELECOMMUNICATIONS ACT OF 1996

HON. MICHAEL G. OXLEY

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 8, 2000

Mr. OXLEY. Mr. Speaker, on the fourth anniversary of the passage of the Telecommunications Act, the benefits of deregulation are plainly evident. Consumers are paying the lowest prices in history for telecommunications services and enjoying new technologies that were unimaginable just 4 years ago. The deregulation that resulted from the act has provided tremendous stimulation to the telecommunications industry and the American economy.

Unfortunately, future progress is being held hostage by a Federal agency resistant to change. The telecommunications industry now moves on Internet time but is regulated by an FCC that relies on Depression-era rules and regulations. The FCC is too big, too powerful, and too unresponsive to the mandates of the law, congressional intent, and the needs of the American consumer.

Congress thought it deregulated the telecommunications industry 4 years ago, and to a large extent we did. What we didn't know was the extent to which the FCC would subvert congressional intent and implement its own agenda. The prologue of the 1996 act states that its goal is to reduce regulation.

What we now know is that the only way to do so is to sharply curtail the power of the FCC.

PROMOTING AND PROTECTING DEMOCRACY IN MONTENEGRO

HON. CHRISTOPHER H. SMITH

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 8, 2000

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey. Mr. Speaker, last week I chaired a hearing before the Commission on Security and Cooperation in Europe on promoting and protecting democracy in Montenegro. Montenegro is a small republic with only about 700,000 inhabitants, and yet it is among the strongest proponents of democratic change in the Balkans. As a result, Montenegro has the potential of being the target of the next phase of the Yugoslav conflict which began in 1991.

Montenegro, with a south Slavic population of Eastern Orthodox heritage, is the Only other former Yugoslav republic to have maintained ties in a federation with Serbia. Since 1997, Montenegro has moved toward democratic reform, and its leaders have distanced themselves from earlier involvement in the ethnic intolerance and violence which devastated neighboring Croatia, Bosnia, and Kosovo. In contrast, the Belgrade regime of Slobodan Milosevic has become more entrenched in power and more determined to bring ruin to Serbia, if necessary to maintain this power. The divergence of paths has made the existing federation almost untenable, especially in the aftermath of last year's conflict in Kosovo. We now hear reports of a confrontation with Milosevic and possible conflict in Montenegro as a result.

One witness Janusz Bugajski of the Center for Strategic and International Studies, presented the conflict scenarios. He said: "Other than surrendering Montenegro altogether, Belgrade has three options: a military coup and occupation; the promotion of regional and ethnic conflicts; or the provocation of civil war. More likely Milosevic will engage in various provocations, intimidations and even assassinations to unbalance the Montenegrin leadership. He will endeavor to sow conflict between the parties in the governing coalition, heat up tensions in the Sandjak region of Montenegro by pitting Muslims against Christian Orthodox, and threaten to partition northern Montenegro if Podgorica [the capital of Montenegro] pushes toward statehood. The political environment will continue to heat up before the planned referendum" on independence.

In addition to the ongoing operations to keep the peace and provide justice and democratic governance in Bosnia and Kosovo, Mr. Speaker, the United States and the rest of the international community will face the challenge this year of promoting and protecting democracy in Montenegro. Srdjan Darmanovic, head of the Center for Democracy and Human Rights in Montenegro, said it is logical and understandable that the international community encourages the Montenegrin authorities to follow a policy of ambiguity on the republic's future. On the one hand, the international com-

munity already has the burden of two peacekeeping operations in the former Yugoslav region and doesn't want another, yet it does not want Milosevic to seize Montenegro and stop the democratic development taking place there. Darmonovic concluded, however, that this situation "creates a very narrow space in which the Montenegrin Government has to play a dangerous chess game with the Milosevic regime in which the price of failure or miscalculation could be very high. . . . The 'politics of ambiguity' has very dangerous limits. It cannot last forever."

Veselin Vukotic, head of the Center for Entrepreneurship in Montenegro, described the economic steps which Montenegro has taken to distance itself from Serbia. He said that Montenegrin citizens cannot wait for the day when Milosevic resigns, which may never come. Economic change must begin now. The introduction of the Deutsche mark as a second currency has allowed the Montenegrin economy to move away from that of Yugoslavia as a whole. This has led to a decrease in Serbian-Montenegrin commerce and permits Montenegro to receive outside assistance even as Serbia remains under international sanctions. Still, he noted that the Montenegrin economy needs to be transformed into a market economy. This will require transparency to deter the continuing problem of corruption, as well as the development of a more open society.

Fortunately, Mr. Speaker, Montenegro is no longer alone in seeking to base its future on multi-ethnic accord, democracy and openness, rather than the nationalism of the 1990s. Beginning in late 1998, a similar trend began in Macedonia, and now in Croatia, new government leaders were elected who will reverse the nationalist authoritarianism of the Tudjman years. Hopefully, this will resonate in Serbia itself, where change is needed. The bottom line, as the Assistant Secretary of State for European Affairs Marc Grossman said in a conversation, is that there must be change in Serbia itself. As long as Milosevic is in power, there will be regional instability.

In testimony before the Senate Committee on Armed Services last week, Director of Central Intelligence George Tenet made clear: "Of the many threats to peace and stability in the year ahead, the greatest remains Slobodan Milosevic—the world's only sitting president indicted for crimes against humanity. . . . He retains control of the security forces, military commands, and an effective media machine."

With good judgment and resolve, Mr. Speaker, conflict can be avoided in Montenegro, and those seeking conflict deterred. As democracy is strengthened in Montenegro, the international community can also give those in Serbia struggling to bring democracy to their republic a chance to succeed. The people of Serbia deserve support. Democracy-building is vital for Serbs, Montenegrins and others living in the entire southeastern region of Europe.

Mr. Speaker, in the past decade, those of us who follow world affairs have had an in-depth lesson in the history, geography and demography of southeastern Europe. Places like Bosnia-Herzegovina, Macedonia and Kosovo were little known and little understood. Unfortunately, too many policymakers became aware of them only as the news reports of ethnic cleansing began to pour in.

The Helsinki Commission, which I have now had the honor of chairing for the past 5 years, has sought for over two decades to inform Members of Congress, the U.S. Government and the American public, of developing issues in countries of Europe, the Caucasus and Central Asia. Hopefully, with timely and well-informed attention, we can more effectively and quickly respond to a potential crisis, and perhaps save lives.

HONORING THE CAREER OF GENE
DIXON

HON. BART GORDON

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 8, 2000

Mr. GORDON. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to recognize the long-time service of Gene Dixon of Murfreesboro, Tennessee, who will soon retire as the golf professional at The Country Club at Stones River. Gene has been a tremendous ambassador for the game of golf throughout Tennessee and the nation.

A native Tennessean, Gene attended the University of Memphis. His college roommate was 1975 U.S. Open Champion Lou Graham. Gene was the 1958 Tennessee State Amateur Champion, the Memphis City Champion and finished fourth in the NCAA Championship.

After serving his country in the U.S. Army, Gene arrived at Stones River Country Club in 1967. An outstanding golfer in his own right, winning numerous PGA Chapter Championships and participating in four Senior PGA Championships, he has helped develop and mentor many young golfers. Several of these youngsters earned collegiate scholarships, and two have been Tennessee State High School Champions.

Described by Tennessee PGA Executive Director Dick Horton as "the cream of the crop", Dixon will leave a void in the state golfing community when he retires. I congratulate Gene Dixon on his admirable and distinguished career and wish him well in his retirement.

TRIBUTE TO CLEO DUNAWAY
CRAIG

HON. DAVID D. PHELPS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 8, 2000

Mr. PHELPS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Cleo Dunaway Craig. Later this week in Marion, Illinois, she will celebrate her 110th birthday. Cleo Dunaway Craig was born on February 12, 1890 in Marion, to Thomas and Emma Dunaway. In 1909 she married Edgar Craig and together they had one daughter, Elizabeth, who passed away when she was fifty-five years old. Edgar passed away in 1958. She has two grandsons, Craig Brosi who resides in Hackensin, Delaware and Brian Brosi, who lives in Marion and visits his grandmother daily.

Cleo Craig taught for one year at Lincoln Grade School and during World War I she

worked as a reporter for her hometown newspaper. In 1928 she and her husband moved to Metropolis, Illinois and in 1930 her family moved to Chicago until the passing of her husband. After Chicago, Cleo moved back to Marion and lived with her sister until she was one hundred years old. In 1990 she moved to Fountains Nursing Home and still is residing there. Everyday Cleo reads the Chicago Tribune, every week she reads Newsweek. She is an avid sports fan and every summer she robustly cheers on her favorite baseball team: the Chicago Cubs, who have not won a World Series since she was 18 years old. I hope she will not have to wait another 92 years to celebrate a Cub's World Series victory!

Mr. Speaker, Cleo Craig is a living example of the involvement of our country as the strongest nation in the world. She represents the spirit of America: hard work, perseverance and a positive outlook. Perhaps the most amazing thing about Cleo, is that besides some hearing loss, she is in perfect health and does not take any medications. Everyone at the Fountains Nursing Home will be celebrating this momentous birthday with her on Friday. She is truly an inspiration to us all. Lastly, Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to encourage all of my colleagues to join me in wishing Cleo Craig a happy 110th birthday and God's Speed.

RECOGNIZING THE SUPER BOWL
CHAMPION HIGH SCHOOL OF
COMMERCE FOOTBALL TEAM

HON. RICHARD E. NEAL

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 8, 2000

Mr. NEAL of Massachusetts. Mr. Speaker, I would like to recognize the wonderful accomplishments of the football team from the High School of Commerce in Springfield, MA. The Commerce football team finished the season 10-1 and captured the first State title in school history. This was the first Super Bowl game for Commerce since 1978, and the players made the most of their chance by beating Bay Path Regional Vocational Technical 33-15.

The Commerce team became the Division IIIA Super Bowl Champions on the strength of their defense which was able to come up with three fumble recoveries and an interception. The Red Raiders scored three touchdowns in just 42 seconds during the second quarter and never looked back. Commerce amassed over 200 yards on the ground behind the superb running of Julius Walker, who gained over 100 yards by himself. Credit must be given to the offensive line. Although they are accustomed to throwing the ball, the Commerce offense adjusted to the Bay Path game plan and ran the ball successfully.

Head Coach Todd Kosel leads a program which recently endured a winless season. However, Coach Kosel has turned all of that around and now has a team feared and respected for its intelligence, its determination, and its commitment. The depth of this squad can be seen on the score sheet as touchdowns were scored by five different players: Alfonso Dixon, Brandon Bass, Wister Figueroa, Julius Walker, and Michael Vaz.

Mr. Speaker, once again, allow me to recognize and congratulate the Super Bowl Champions from the High School of Commerce. I wish all of the student-athletes on this team the best of luck in 2000 as they return to defend their title.

TRIBUTE TO JOSEPHINE BOLUS

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 8, 2000

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to acknowledge the accomplishments of Ms. Josephine Bolus. As a registered nurse (RN) in New York, she has served her community well.

Ms. Bolus started her community activities during the "Korean conflict", as a member of the Civilian Air Patrol, monitoring the New York City skies for foreign aircraft. She then became a volunteer for the American Red Cross; and later became a licensed practical nurse, under former President Kennedy's educational initiatives. Deciding to further her education, she attended New York City Community College, and graduated in 1971 with a degree in nursing. After graduation she started working at Brooklyn's King's County Hospital Center, and remained there until her retirement in December of 1997.

During those 27 years, Josephine continued her education and with the combined help of a new program offered by King's County Hospital and the State University Hospital of Brooklyn, she became a pediatric nurse practitioner in 1975. She testified before New York Senate Committees on the need for prescriptive privileges for nurse practitioners, as well as the need for New York State Nurse Practitioner Certification. Both issues were enacted into law by the New York State Legislature. As a member of the American Nurse Association, she also serves as the congressional liaison to the 10th congressional district.

She is an active member of the New York State Nurses Association [NYSNA] which represents over 35,000 RNs. After serving in numerous positions, she now serves on the NYSNA Board of Directors and is vice-chair of the NYSNA Political Action Committee. Josephine is also a member of the Women's Caucus, a volunteer organization of women who work on Brooklyn community services projects; the Brooklyn College Alumni Board of Directors; and the Dr. Susan Smith McKinney Community Advisory Board. She is also on the board's health committee and does special projects for New York State Senator John Sampson.

Depending on the day of the week, Ms. Bolus can be found volunteering in my office, as well as the offices of New York State Assemblyman Frank Seddio, and the campaign of Hillary Rodham Clinton. In her "spare time" she has organized health fairs, CPR courses, tennis lessons for asthmatics, and diabetic counseling groups. She has also created unique cloth dolls, which she exchanges for donations to her church.

Josephine is the recipient of several awards, including the 1999 NYSNA Delegate Assembly, the Central Baptist Church's "Humanitarian Award", and the Maggie Jacobs RN